

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Currently Amended) A terminal for processing digital audio-visual or multimedia data including a data processing system and a memory, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the data processing system stores in the memory a plurality of user profiles, wherein each user profile comprises user profile data relating to the characteristics or preferences of a plurality of types of a user of the terminal, and wherein each user profile is defined in relation to a connection to an external device.

B 2. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where ~~the~~ each user profile is defined in relation to a mode of operation of the terminal.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where a each user profile is ~~personalised~~ defined in relation to ~~the~~ an identity of ~~the~~ an operator.

5. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where the user profile data includes resource data indicating ~~the~~ resources within the terminal accessible by ~~each~~ the user.

6. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 5, where the user profile data includes priority data indicating ~~the~~ a priority of ~~each~~ the user ~~in~~ with respect ~~of~~ to access to ~~one or more~~ the resources of the terminal.

7. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where the user profile data comprises data relating to ~~the~~ attributes of information to be supplied to ~~each~~ the user.

8. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where the user profile data comprises data relating to ~~the~~ actions permitted by ~~each~~ the user.

9. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where ~~some or all~~ at least one of the characteristics ~~or preferences~~ of the user profile data are modifiable during normal operation of the terminal by an operator.

10. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where at least a portion ~~some or all~~ of the user profile data is predetermined by the data processing system of the terminal.

11. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, where the ~~terminal~~ ~~comprises a data processing system~~ comprises ~~comprising, inter alia,~~ a virtual machine and an object oriented application interface layer comprising a plurality of class libraries.

12. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 11, in which the application interface layer ~~may~~ comprises ~~one or more~~ at least one class ~~libraries~~ library of the plurality of class libraries defining the operation of the virtual machine with respect to the user profile data.

13. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 11, in which the application interface layer comprises a class library dedicated to memory management of the user profile data in the memory ~~cache of the terminal~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A terminal as claimed in claim 13, in which the application interface layer comprises ~~one or more~~ a user profile class ~~libraries~~ library adapted to define the characteristics of the user profile data ~~to be stored in the user profiles~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A terminal as claimed in claim 14, in which the user profile class ~~libraries~~ library comprises a generic class library associated with ~~the~~ a definition of generic characteristics of the user profile data, and ~~one or more~~ a sub-class ~~libraries~~ library associated with ~~the~~ definitions of characteristics associated with a specific user profile.

16. (Currently Amended) A The terminal as claimed in claim 1, comprising a decoder adapted to receive data transmissions in a digital transmission system.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of operation of a terminal for processing digital audio-visual or multimedia data including a data processing system and a ~~cache~~ memory ~~characterised by the step of comprising:~~ storing and accessing in the terminal memory a plurality of user profiles, wherein each user profile comprises user profile data relating to the characteristics or preferences of a plurality of users user of the terminal, and wherein each user profile is defined in relation to a connection of an external device.

18.-19. (Cancelled)